ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Mirroring data to provide a virtual storage area network using policing protocols and mirror engines without a physical shared storage node. The mirror engines are found at each server computer in the network in order to mirror the data between mass storage devices of the servers as the servers receive and execute write operations, which results in each mass storage device containing the same stored data. The policing protocols prevent data corruption by not allowing more than one server at a time write to a file of data. If one server experiences failure and is incapable of providing access to network data, the other server or servers can service all read requests, since all network data is accessible by all servers. Unlike conventional storage area networks, there is no physical shared storage node and, accordingly, the costs of obtaining and operating the virtual storage area network are relatively small.

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